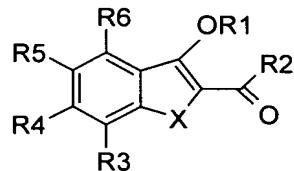


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Compounds of the general formula (I):



(I)

in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

- Alk-COOH,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,
- Alk-C(=O)NRR',
- Alk-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-O-Alk,
- Alk-O-Alk-Ar,
- Alk-O-Het;

R2 is chosen from -OH, -OAlk, -NR₇R₈, -OAr, -OHet and -O-cycloalkyl;

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

- H;
- Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het',

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl and NO₂;

or R7 and R8 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a nitrogenous heterocycle of 5 to 10 atoms;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

with the exception of the compounds for which :

1) R1 = CH₂-phenyl, optionally substituted by -NO₂ or -OMe,

R2 = -OMe, -OEt or -OH, R3, R6 = H, R4, R5 = H or -OMe,

X = O or S, or

2) R1 = -CH₂-C(=O)Me, R3, R4, R5, R6 = H, X = O and R2 = -OEt or X = S and R2 = -OMe;

3) R1 = -CH₂-CO₂Et, R2 = -OEt, R3, R4, R6 = H, X = O and R5 = -NH₂ or -NO₂; or R1 = -CH₂-CO₂Me, R3, R4, R5, R6 = H, R2 = -OMe and X = O or S, or R2 = -OH and X = S; or

R1 = -CH₂CO₂H, R3, R4, R5, R6 = H, R2 = OH and X = S;

4) R1 = -CH₂-phenyl, R2 = -NH₂, X = O, S and R5 = -OMe, or X = O and R5 = phenyl.

2. (Original) Compounds of the general formula (I) according to Claim 1, in which:

R2 = -OEt and X = S, and

R1 is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,

-Alk-C(=O)NRR',

-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-O-Alk,

-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,

-Alk-O-Het,

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H,

-Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

in which each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -

NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3. (Original) Compounds of the general formula (I) according to Claim 1, in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,

-Alk-C(=O)NRR',

-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-O-Alk,

-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,

-Alk-O-Het;

R2 = -NR₇R₈ in which

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

-Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_mcycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het';

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -

OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_mcycloalkyl and NO₂;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

in which each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,

-Alk-C(=O)NRR',

-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-O-Alk,

-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,

-Alk-O-Het;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

4. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R3, R4, R5, R6 = H.

5. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which X = S.

6. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R2 = -OAlk.

7. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which m = 0.

8. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R2 = -NR7R8,
in which
R7 = H or Alk and
R8 = -Alk' optionally substituted by -C(=O)-OAlk, -Het', -Ar' optionally substituted by -Hal, -C(=O)OAlk or -Alk-C(=O)OAlk.

9. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which:
R1 = -CH₂-COOH, -CH₂-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar, -CH₂-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het, -CH₂-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk, -CH₂-C(=O)NRR', -CH₂-(O)_m-Ar, -CH₂-O-Alk, -CH₂-O-Alk-Ar or -CH₂-O-Het in which
Ar is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -Alk, -O-Alk-Ar, -C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -S(O)_n-Ar, -S(O)_n-Alk, -O-CF₃, -CN and -OH,
in which m = 0 or 1, n = 2.

10. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 1, in which R1 = -CH₂-C(=O)-Ar, -CH₂-C(=O)-Alk or -(CH₂)_m-(O)_m-Ar, in which
Ar is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -Alk, -

O-Alk-Ar, -C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -S(O)_n-Ar, -S(O)_n-Alk, -O-CF₃, -CN and -OH,

in which m = 0 or 1, m' = 1 or 2, n = 2.

11. (Original) Compounds of the formula (I) according to Claim 10, in which m' = 2 if m = 1.

12. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which Ar = phenyl.

13. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R1 = -CH₂-C(=O) Alk.

14. (Original) Compounds of the formula (I) according to Claim 13, in which Alk = -CMe₃.

15. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 12~~ Claim 1, in which R1 = -CH₂-C(=O)-phenyl or -CH₂-phenyl, in which phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk and -CN.

16. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, chosen from:

ethyl 3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-oxo-2-phenylethoxy)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-biphenyl-4-yl-2-oxoethoxy)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-oxo-2-p-tolylethoxy)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-adamantan-1-yl-2-oxoethoxy)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(4-benzyloxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

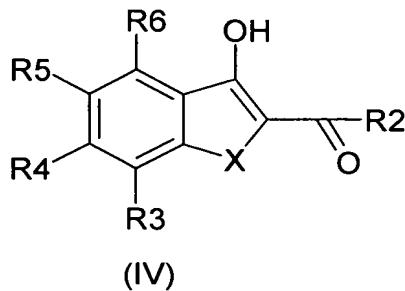
ethyl 3-(1-methyl-2-oxo-2-phenylethoxy)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(3,3-dimethyl-2-oxobutoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-naphthalen-2-yl-2-oxoethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2,3-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2-benzyloxy-5-fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-hydroxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(4-fluorophenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-phenethyloxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-phenoxyethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(4-cyanophenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-{2-[4-(2-methoxycarbonylethyl)phenoxy]ethoxy}benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(naphthalen-1-ylloxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2-methoxyphenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2,3-dimethylphenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2'-cyanobiphenyl-4-ylmethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(3-phenoxypropoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-cyanobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(3-cyanobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-cyanobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-benzenesulfonylmethylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-methoxycarbonylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-trifluoromethoxybenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-pentafluorophenylmethoxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-trifluoromethylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(naphthalen-2-ylmethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(biphenyl-2-ylmethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(3-methoxybenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-fluorobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-bromobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-methylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-benzyloxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2,3-difluorobenzyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
and also the stereoisomeric forms, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

17. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, comprising the step consisting in using: a compound of the formula (IV)

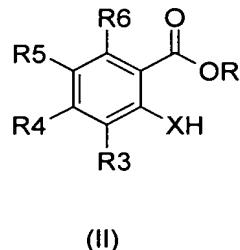


with a halo derivative of the formula (V):

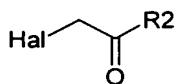


in which R1-R6 are defined as in any one of the preceding claims, with an equimolar amount, in a polar solvent, at a temperature of from -20 to 200°C.

18. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of the compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~Claim 17~~, for which the compound of the formula (IV) is obtained by adding a compound of the formula (II):



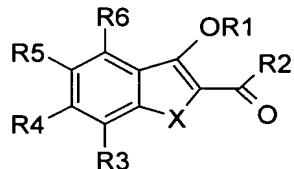
in which R3-R6 and X are as defined in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 16~~ Claim 1, and R represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical, to a 2-haloethanone derivative of the formula (III):



in which Hal represents a halogen atom and R2 is as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 16, in a polar solvent, at a temperature of from -20 to 200°C, followed by cyclization in a polar solvent, at a temperature of from -20 to 200°C.

19. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of the compounds of the formula (I) according to Claim 17 ~~or 18~~, for which the said polar solvent is chosen from: ethanol, methanol, water, DMF, NMP, DMSO and iPrOH.

20. (Original) Pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compounds of the formula (I):



(I)

in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

- Alk-COOH,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,
- Alk-C(=O)NRR',
- Alk-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-O-Alk,
- Alk-O-Alk-Ar,
- Alk-O-Het;

R2 is chosen from -OH, -OAlk, -NR7R8, -OAr, -OHet and -O-cycloalkyl;

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

-H;

-Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het',

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl and NO₂;

or R7 and R8 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a nitrogenous heterocycle of 5 to 10 atoms;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

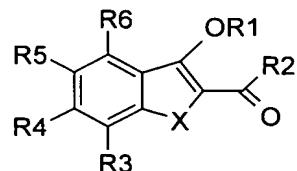
n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts

thereof.

21. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical compositions ~~according to Claim 17~~, in which X and R1-R6 are as defined according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 16~~ Claim 2.

22. (Original) Use of the compounds of the formula (I):



(I)

in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

- Alk-COOH,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,
- Alk-C(=O)NRR',
- Alk-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-O-Alk,
- Alk-O-Alk-Ar,
- Alk-O-Het;

R2 is chosen from -OH, -OAlk, -NR7R8, -OAr, -OHet and -O-cycloalkyl;

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

- H;
- Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -

OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het',

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl and NO₂;

or R7 and R8 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a nitrogenous heterocycle of 5 to 10 atoms;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

for the manufacture of a medicament for reducing hyperglycaemia.

23. (Original) Use according to Claim 22, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of diabetes.

24. (Currently Amended) Utilisation according to Claim 22 or 23, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of non-insulin-dependent diabetes.

25. (Currently Amended) Use according to Claim 22, ~~23 or 24~~, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of dyslipidaemia and/or obesity.

26. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of Claims 22 to 25~~ Claim 22, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of and/or preventing diabetes-related microvascular and macrovascular complications.

27. (Original) Use according to Claim 26, for which the said microvascular and macrovascular complications are chosen from atherosclerosis, arterial hypertension, diabetes-related inflammatory processes, microangiopathy, macroangiopathy, retinopathy and neuropathy.

28. (Cancel)